

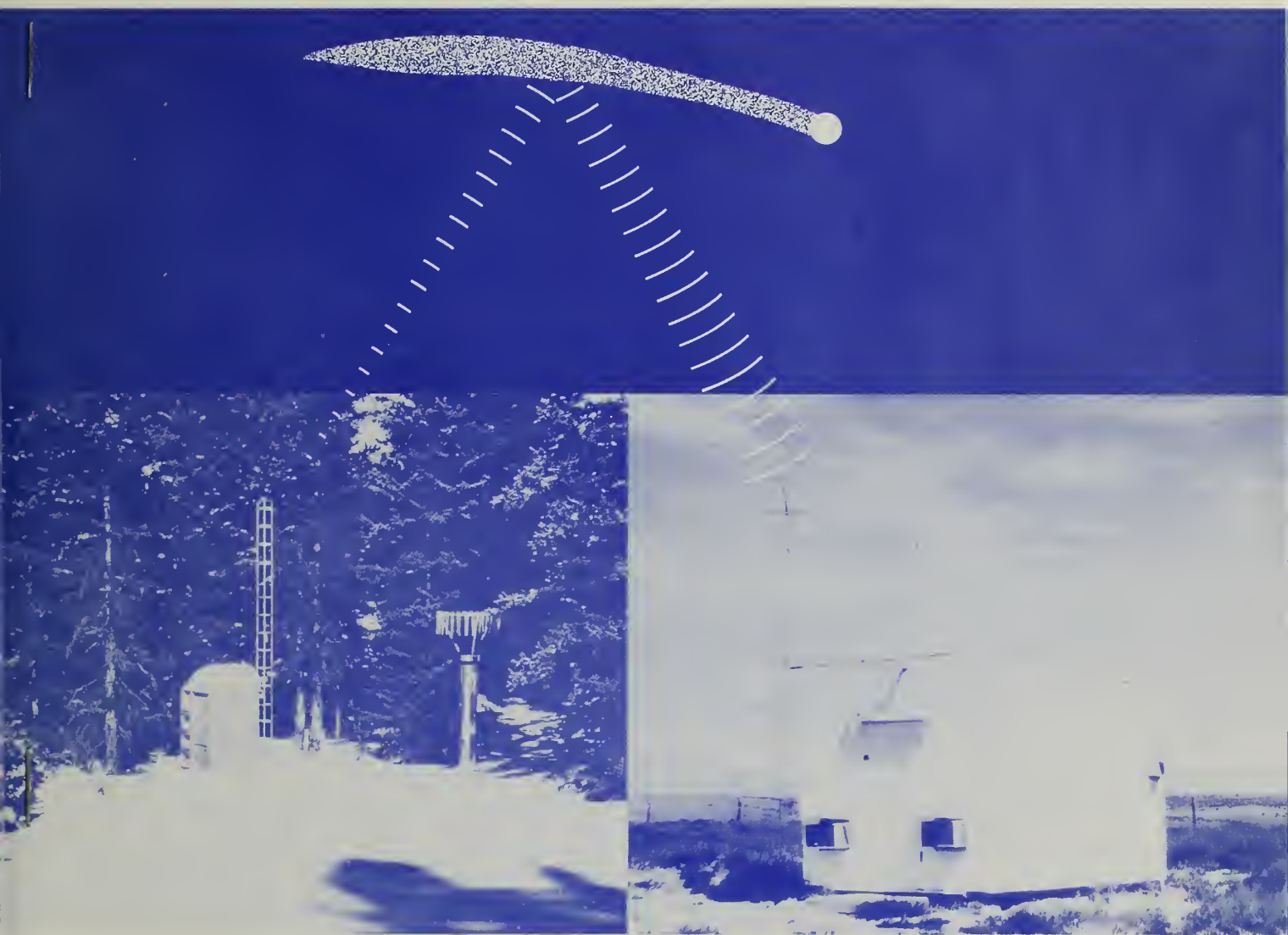
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# **WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA**



**U. S. DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE ★ SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE**

Collaborating with

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT of CONSERVATION  
and NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION of WATER RESOURCES**

Data included in this report were obtained by the agencies named above in cooperation with Federal, State and private organizations listed inside the back cover of this report.

AS OF  
**MAY 1, 1978**

## TO RECIPIENTS OF WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK REPORTS:

Most of the usable water in western states originates as mountain snowfall. This snowfall accumulates during the winter and spring, several months before the snow melts and appears as streamflow. Since the runoff from precipitation as snow is delayed, estimates of snowmelt runoff can be made well in advance of its occurrence. Streamflow forecasts published in this report are based principally on measurement of the water equivalent of the mountain snowpack.

Forecasts become more accurate as more of the data affecting runoff are measured. All forecasts assume that climatic factors during the remainder of the snow accumulation and melt season will interact with a resultant average effect on runoff. Early season forecasts are therefore subject to a greater change than those made on later dates.

The snow course measurement is obtained by sampling snow depth and water equivalent at surveyed and marked locations in mountain areas. A total of about ten samples are taken at each location. The average of these are reported as snow depth and water equivalent. These measurements are repeated in the same location near the same dates each year.

Snow surveys are made monthly or semi-monthly from January 1 through June 1 in most states. There are about 1900 snow courses in Western United States and in the Columbia Basin in British Columbia. Networks of automatic snow water equivalent and related data sensing devices, along with radio telemetry are expanding and will provide a continuous record of snow water and other parameters at key locations.

Detailed data on snow course and soil moisture measurements are presented in state and local reports. Other data on reservoir storage, summaries of precipitation, current streamflow, and soil moisture conditions at valley elevations are also included. The report for Western United States presents a broad picture of water supply outlook conditions, including selected streamflow forecasts, summary of snow accumulation to date, and storage in larger reservoirs.

Snow survey and soil moisture data for the period of record are published by the Soil Conservation Service by states about every five years. Data for the current year is summarized in a West-wide basic data summary and published about October 1 of each year.

*COVER PHOTO: SOME OF THE DATA IN THIS REPORT HAVE BEEN RECEIVED THROUGH THE SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE'S NEW SNOTEL SYSTEM WHICH TRANSMITS INFORMATION VIA THE SPACE AGED METEOR BURST METHOD FROM DATA SITES TO MASTER STATIONS LIKE THESE.*

### PUBLISHED BY SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

The Soil Conservation Service publishes reports following the principal snow survey dates from January 1 through June 1 in cooperation with state water administrators, agricultural experiment stations and others. Copies of the reports for Western United States and all state reports may be obtained from Soil Conservation Service, West Technical Service Center, Room 510, 511 N.W. Broadway, Portland, Oregon 97209.

Copies of state and local reports may also be obtained from state offices of the Soil Conservation Service in the following states:

STATE	ADDRESS
Alaska	Room 129, 2221 East Northern Lights Blvd., Anchorage, Alaska 99504
Arizona	Room 3008, Federal Building, Phoenix, Arizona 85025
Colorado (N. Mex.)	P. O. Box 17107, Denver, Colorado 80217
Idaho	Room 345, 304 N. 8th. St., Boise, Idaho 83702
Montana	P.O. Box 98, Bozeman, Montana 59715
Nevada	P. O. Box 4850, Reno Nevada 89505
Oregon	1220 S.W. Third Ave., Portland, Oregon 97204
Utah	4012 Federal Bldg., 125 South State St., Salt Lake City, Utah 84138
Washington	360 U.S. Court House, Spokane, Washington 99201
Wyoming	P. O. Box 2440, Casper, Wyoming 82602

### PUBLISHED BY OTHER AGENCIES

Water Supply Outlook reports prepared by other agencies include a report for California by the Water Supply Forecast and Snow Surveys Unit, California Department of Water Resources, P.O. Box 388, Sacramento, California 95802 --- for British Columbia by the Ministry of the Environment, Water Investigations Branch, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia V8V 1X5 --- for Yukon Territory by the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, Northern Operations Branch, 200 Range Road, Whitehorse, Yukon Territory Y1A 3V1 --- and for Alberta, Saskatchewan, and N.W.T. by the Water Survey of Canada, Inland Waters Branch, 110-12 Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta T3C 1A6.



# **WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA**

and  
FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS

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ALL AVERAGES ARE FOR 1958-72 PERIOD

# WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS CONTINUE TO BE FAR ABOVE AVERAGE FOR THIS SUMMER ACCORDING TO SNOW SURVEYS TAKEN FOR MAY 1. HIGH ELEVATION SNOW ELEVATION COURSES ARE FAR ABOVE AVERAGE: MEDIUM ELEVATION SNOW COURSES ARE SLIGHTLY ABOVE AVERAGE: AND MOST LOW ELEVATION COURSES ARE BELOW AVERAGE. COOL, STORMY WEATHER DURING THE MONTH SLOWED SNOWMELT, RESULTING IN APRIL STREAM-FLOWS BEING NEAR AVERAGE AFTER ABOVE AVERAGE FLOWS OCCURRED DURING MARCH.

THE LATE SNOWMELT SHOULD CAUSE STREAMFLOW PEAKS TO BE DELAYED SLIGHTLY AND RUNOFF TO BE EXTENDED FURTHER INTO THE SUMMER.

RESERVOIR STORAGE IS SLIGHTLY IMPROVED OVER LAST MONTH, BUT THE SEVEN MAJOR RESERVOIRS AFFECTING IRRIGATION IN THE STATE ONLY HAVE 57 PERCENT OF AVERAGE, ABOUT THE SAME AS LAST YEAR AT THIS TIME.

## East Slope of Sierra Nevada

The May 1 snowpack is now 138 percent on the Tahoe Basin, 148 percent on the Truckee, 160 percent on the Carson and 189 percent on the Walker Basin. Cool temperatures and stormy weather have slowed snowmelt causing high elevation courses to continue accumulating snowpack. Consequently, April streamflows were near normal. Streamflow forecasts for the May 1 - July 31 period are above average. Forecasts now range from 138 percent on the Truckee River at Farad to 212 percent on the East Walker River near Bridgeport. The East Carson near Gardnerville is forecast at 153 percent and the West Walker at 171 percent. Water supplies should be adequate this summer. With the late meltout, the flows should continue later in the summer.

Reservoir storage has improved slightly during the month; all reservoirs are below average except Boca Reservoir. Lake Tahoe has 145,000 acre-feet of usable storage as compared to an average 480,000 acre-feet. Lahontan contains 212,000 acre-feet for 97 percent of average. Topaz contains 10,000 acre-feet as compared to a 40,000 acre-feet average, while Bridgeport has 21,000 acre-feet as compared to an average of 31,000 acre-feet.

It will take several years for Lake Tahoe to return to an average April 1 storage of 456,000 acre-feet. During the dry period of the early 60's, it took four years to regain that amount of water.

### Humboldt and Owyhee

Snow measurements in these basins indicate 117 percent in the Owyhee and 132 percent in the Upper Humboldt. The only snow in the Owyhee and North Fork of Humboldt River are at the high elevations, while on the South Fork of the Humboldt River most courses have snow except the low elevations.

Streamflow forecasts are above average for all streams for the May 1 - July 31 period, ranging from 105 percent on the North Fork of the Humboldt to 160 percent on Martin Creek. The Humboldt River at Palisade is forecast at 175 percent. The Owyhee River near Gold Creek is forecast at 11,000 acre-feet or 137 percent of average.

Storage in Rye Patch Reservoir is 68,000 acre-feet as compared to the 1958-72 average of 107,000 acre-feet. Wild Horse Reservoir contains 43,000 acre-feet, an increase of 13,000 acre-feet since April 1, but 29,000 acre-feet short of its capacity of 72,000 acre-feet. The 11,000 acre-feet forecast will not fill the reservoir.

### Eastern Nevada

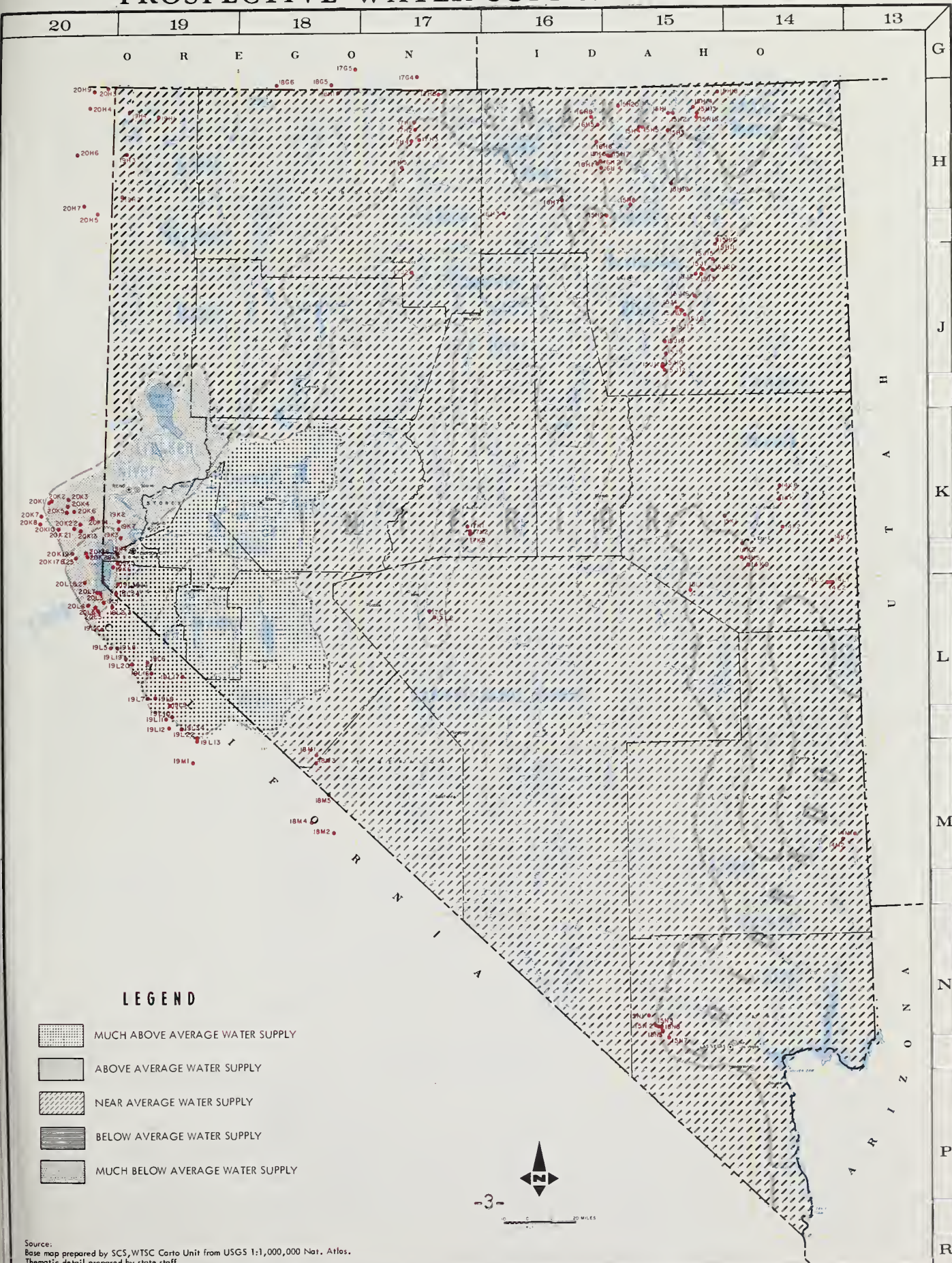
Berry Creek and Ward Mountain were the only two snow courses read this month. Both indicate that high elevation snow is far above average. Berry Creek is 153 percent of the May 1 average and 162 percent of April 1. Ward Mountain has no May 1 average for comparison but is 311 percent of the April 1 average. SNOTEL precipitation gages at these sites indicate a catch of 22.6 inches for Berry Creek and 32.1 inches for Ward Mountain since September 15, 1977. The small streams in this area should maintain their flows much later in the summer than usual.

### Northern Great Basin

Cedar Pass and Mt. Bidwell snow courses show substantial increases during the month. They now have more snowpack than at any time during the season. Streamflow forecasts have increased and late season flows should be above average. The SNOTEL precipitation gage at Cedar Pass indicates a catch of 25.9 inches since October 31, 1977.



# PROSPECTIVE WATER SUPPLY FOR NEVADA



# INDEX TO NEVADA SNOW COURSES

(By Basins)

Refer to the map on the preceeding page for Snow Course locations.

NUMBER	NAME	SEC.	TWP.	RGE.	ELEV.
<b>SNAKE RIVER BASIN</b>					
<b>SNAKE RIVER</b>					
15H15MA	Bear Creek	31	46N	58E	7800
15H2	Fox Creek	33	46N	58E	6800
15H135A	Goat Creek	31	46N	60E	8800
15H15A	Hummingbird Springs	6	45N	60E	8945
15H20a	Merritt Mountain	10	46N	54E	7000
15H145A	Pole Creek Ranger Station	13	46N	59E	8330
15H18a	Red Point	15	47N	61E	7940
15H35A	76 Creek	6	44N	58E	7100
15H19a	5tag Mountain	32	41N	58E	7800

<b>OWYHEE RIVER</b>					
15H45M	Big Bend	30	45N	56E	6700
16H6a	Columbia Basin	31	44N	53E	6650
16H8a	Fawn Creek	2	45N	52E	7000
15H5	Gold Creek	32	45N	56E	6600
16H1M	Jack Creek, Lower	18	42N	53E	6800
16H25AM	Jack Creek, Upper	9	42N	53E	7250
16H45	Jacks Peak	21	42N	53E	8420
16H55	Laurel Draw	20	45N	53E	6700
17G4a	Louse Canyon (OR)	27	40S	44E	6440
15H9MP	Taylor Canyon	35	39N	53E	6200

## INTERIOR

<b>UPPER HUMBOLDT RIVER</b>					
15J17a	American Beauty	32	31N	58E	7800
15J125A	Corral Canyon	27	28N	57E	8500
15J15M	Oorsey Basin	28	35N	60E	8100
15J3	Ory Creek	5	34N	60E	6500
15H7	Fry Canyon	31	43N	54E	6700
15J95M	Green Mountain	23	29N	57E	8000
15J10	Harrison Pass #1	9	28N	57E	6600
15J11	Harrison Pass #2	16	28N	57E	7400
15J4	Lamoille #1	15	32N	58E	7100
15J65	Lamoille #3	24	32N	58E	7700
15J8P	Lamoille #5	31	32N	59E	8700
15J20	Pole Canyon #2	6	34N	61E	7700
15J16a	Robinson Lake	23	33N	59E	9200
15H6MP	Rodeo Flat	36	43N	53E	6800
15J2	Ryan Ranch	1	34N	59E	5800
15J19	Smith Creek	26	30N	57E	7600
15H8	Tremewan Ranch	9	39N	55E	5700
15H10P	Trout Creek, Lower	28	37N	61E	6900
15H11A	Trout Creek, Upper	4	36N	61E	8500

<b>LOWER HUMBOLDT RIVER</b>					
17K1	Big Creek Campground	10	17N	43E	6600
17K2	Big Creek Mine	23	17N	43E	7600
17K3	Big Creek, Upper	26	17N	43E	7800
17H2	Buckskin, Lower	25	45N	39E	6700
17H1	Buckskin, Upper	11	45N	39E	8200
17L1	Corral, Lower	12	11N	40E	7500
17L2	Corral, Upper	20	11N	41E	8000
17J2	Golconda #2	22	35N	39E	6000
17H4	Granite Peak	22	44N	39E	7800
17H5	Lamance Creek	13	42N	38E	6000
17H3	Martin Creek	13	44N	39E	6700
16H3AP	Midas	18	39N	46E	7200
16H7a	Toe Jam	29	40N	50E	7700

<b>EASTERN NEVADA</b>					
14L1	Baker #1	29	13N	69E	7950
14L2	Baker #2	30	13N	69E	8950
14L3	Baker #3	25	13N	68E	9250
14K25	Berry Creek	26	17N	65E	9100
14K1	Bird Creek	34	19N	65E	7500
14K9a	Oeliance Mines	9	14N	63E	9200
15J15	Hole-in-Mountain	6	35N	61E	7900
14K3	Kalamazoo Creek	34	20N	65E	7400
14K3	Murray Summit	25	16N	62E	7250
15K1	Robinson Summit	34	18N	61E	7600
14K7	Silver Creek #2	30	16N	69E	8000
14K5	Ward Mountain #2	25	15N	62E	8900

<b>CENTRAL GREAT BASIN</b>					
18M2	Campito Mountain (CA)	19	55	35E	10200
18M5a	Chiatovich Flat (CA)	32	25	34E	10500
15N2	Clark Canyon	8	19S	56E	9000
18M1	Montgomery Pass	4	1N	33E	7100
18M3a	Pinchot Creek (CA)	28	1N	33E	9300
18M4a	Piute Pass (CA)	33	4S	33E	11700
15M1	Trough Springs	23	18S	55E	8500

<b>NORTHERN GREAT BASIN</b>					
19H1a	Bald Mountain	17	45N	21E	6270
20H5	Barber Creek (CA)	23	39N	16E	6500
20H6	Cedar Pass (CA)	12	43N	14E	7100
18G6a	Denio Creek (OR)	14	41S	34E	6000
18H1	Oisaster Peak	8	47N	34E	6500
20H3a	Dismal Swamp (CA)	31	48N	17E	7000
20H7	Eagle Peak (CA)	35	40N	15E	7200
19H3	49 Mountain	7	42N	19E	6000
19H2	Hays Canyon	1	39N	18E	6400
19H4a	Little Bally Mountain	8	45N	19E	6000
20H9	Mt. Bidwell	6	47N	16E	7200
20H10	North Star	13	47N	16E	6200
17G5a	Oregon Canyon (OR)	9	40S	40E	7240
17H6a	Quinn Ridge	9	47N	41E	6300
20H4	Reservation Creek (CA)	12	46N	15E	5900
18G5a	Trout Creek (OR)	10	41S	38E	7800

NUMBER	NAME	SEC.	TWP.	RGE.	ELEV.
<b>LAKE TAHOE</b>					
20L65	Echo Peak (CA)	35	12N	17E	7800
20L5	Echo Summit (CA)	6	11N	18E	7450
20L105	Fallen Leaf (CA)	36	13N	17E	6300
19L2	Freel Bench (CA)	36	12N	18E	7300
19K6	Glenbrook #2	13	14N	18E	6900
19L3M5	Haqans Meadow (CA)	36	12N	18E	8000
19L245	Heavenly Valley (CA)	1	12N	18E	8850
20L4	Lake Lucille (CA)	28	12N	17E	8200
19K4M5	Marlette Lake	18	15N	19E	8000
20L3	Richardsons #2 (CA)	6	12N	18E	6500
20L1	Rubicon #1 (CA)	6	13N	17E	8100
20L2	Rubicon #2 (CA)	6	13N	17E	7500
20K16	Tahoe City (CA)	6	15N	17E	6250
20K26	Tahoe City Alt. (CA)	7	15N	17E	6300
20K275	Tahoe City Cross (CA)	1	15N	16E	6750
19L1	Upper Truckee (CA)	21	12N	18E	6400
20K17M	Ward Creek (CA)	21	15N	16E	7000
20K255	Ward Creek #2 (CA)	21	15N	16E	6750

<b>TRUCKEE RIVER</b>					
20K14	Boca #2 (CA)	28	18N	17E	5900
20K22	Brookway Summit (CA)	3	17N	16E	7100
20K21	Conner Park #2 (CA)	18	17N	16E	6000
20K10	Conner Summit (CA)	25	17N	14E	6900
20K7*	Fordyce Lake (CA)	34	18N	13E	6500
20K8*	Furnace Flat (CA)	10	17N	13E	6700
20K4M5	Independence Camp (CA)	34	19N	15E	7000
20K35	Independence Creek (CA)	14	19N	15E	6500
20K55	Independence Lake (CA)	9	18N	15E	8450
19K3	Little Valley	17	16N	19E	6300
19K25	Mt. Rose	7	17N	19E	9000
19K7	Mt. Rose Ski Area	30	17N	19E	9000
20K6	Sage Hen Creek (CA)	7	18N	16E	6500
20K19	Squaw Valley #2 (CA)	6	15N	16E	7500
20K135	Truckee #2 (CA)	22	17N	16E	6400
20K2*	Webber Lake (CA)	29	19N	14E	7000
20K1*	Webber Peak (CA)	30	19N	14E	8000

<b>CARSON RIVER</b>					
19L5	Blue Lakes (CA)	30	9N	19E	8000
19L4	Carson Pass, Upper (CA)	22	10N	18E	8600
19K5	Clear Creek	6	14N	19E	7300
19L195	Ebbetts Pass (CA)	17	8N	20E	8700
19L16a	Fish Valley, Upper (CA)	1	7N	22E	8050
19L065	Poison Flat (CA)	25	8N	21E	7900
19L18A5	Wet Meadows Lake (CA)	26	9N	19E	8100
19L20a	Wolf Creek (CA)	35	8N	20E	8000

<b>WALKER RIVER</b>					
19L11	Buckeye Forks (CA)	20	4N	23E	8500
19L10	Buckeye Roughs (CA)	15	4N	23E	7900
19L12	Center Mountain (CA)	4	3N	23E	9400
19L8	Leavitt Meadows (CA)	4	5N	22E	7200
19L175A	Lobdell Lake (CA)	20	7N	24E	9200
19L34	Sawmill Ridge (CA)	17	3N	24E	8750
19L75	Sonora Pass (CA)	1	5N	21E	8800
19M1*	Tioga Pass (CA)	30	1N	25E	9900
19L13	Virginia Lakes (CA)	5	2N	25E	9500
19L22M5	Virginia Lakes Ridge (CA)	32	2N	25E	9200
19L9	Willow Flat (CA)	21	5N	23E	8250

## COLORADO

<b>LOWER COLORADO RIVER</b>					
15N5	Kyle Canyon	27	19S	56E	8200
15N3	Lee Canyon #2	9	19S	56E	9200
15N8	Lee Canyon #3	10	19S	56E	8500
14M1	Mathew Canyon	10	6S	70E	6000
14M2	Pine Canyon	23	6S	69E	6200
15N7	Rainbow Canyon #2	6	20S	57E	8100
15L1	White River #1	31	13N	59E	7400

## LEGEND

### NUMBERING SYSTEM (EXAMPLE)

19KA	Snow Course Only
19K4S	Snow Course with SNOTEL
19K4M	Snow Course and Soil Moisture
19K4A	Snow Course and Aerial Marker
19K4P	Snow Course and Storage Precipitation Gage
19K4MA	Snow Course, Soil Moisture and Aerial Marker
19K4MP	Snow Course, Soil Moisture, and Precipitation Gage

Lower case letter "a" indicates no snow course, only an Aerial Marker.  
SNOTEL has telemetered data for snow pillow, precipitation gage and temperature.

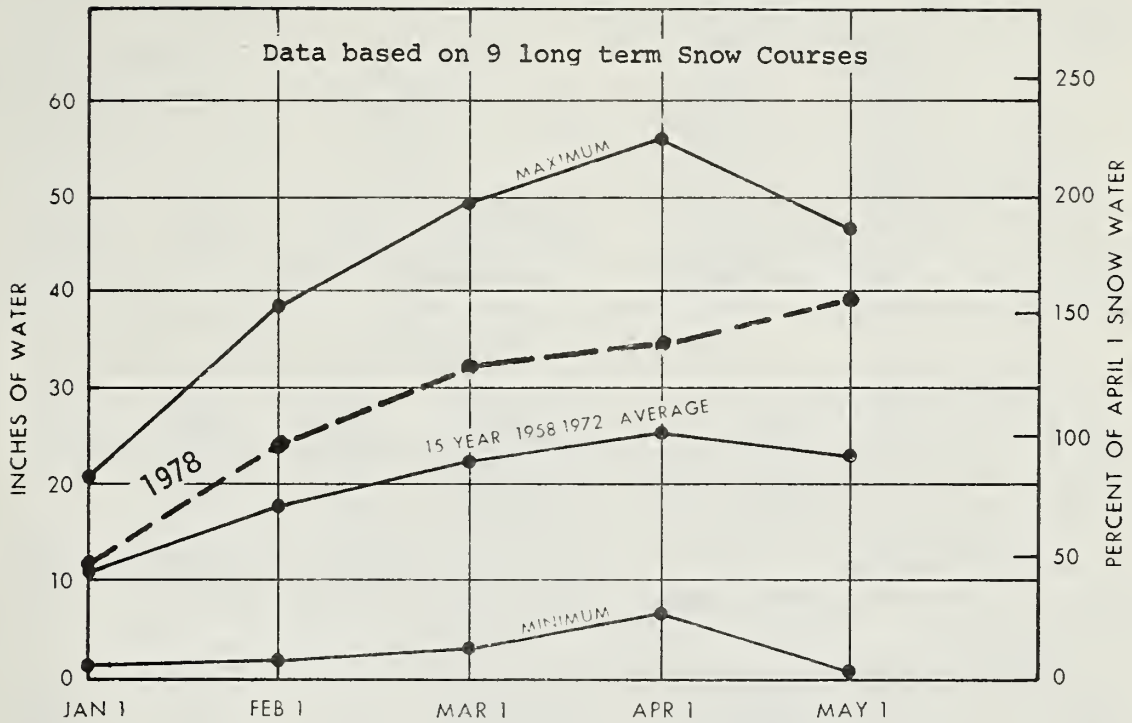


# WINTER SNOWPACK

## TAHOE, TRUCKEE, CARSON & WALKER BASINS

### NEVADA-CALIFORNIA

#### 1978

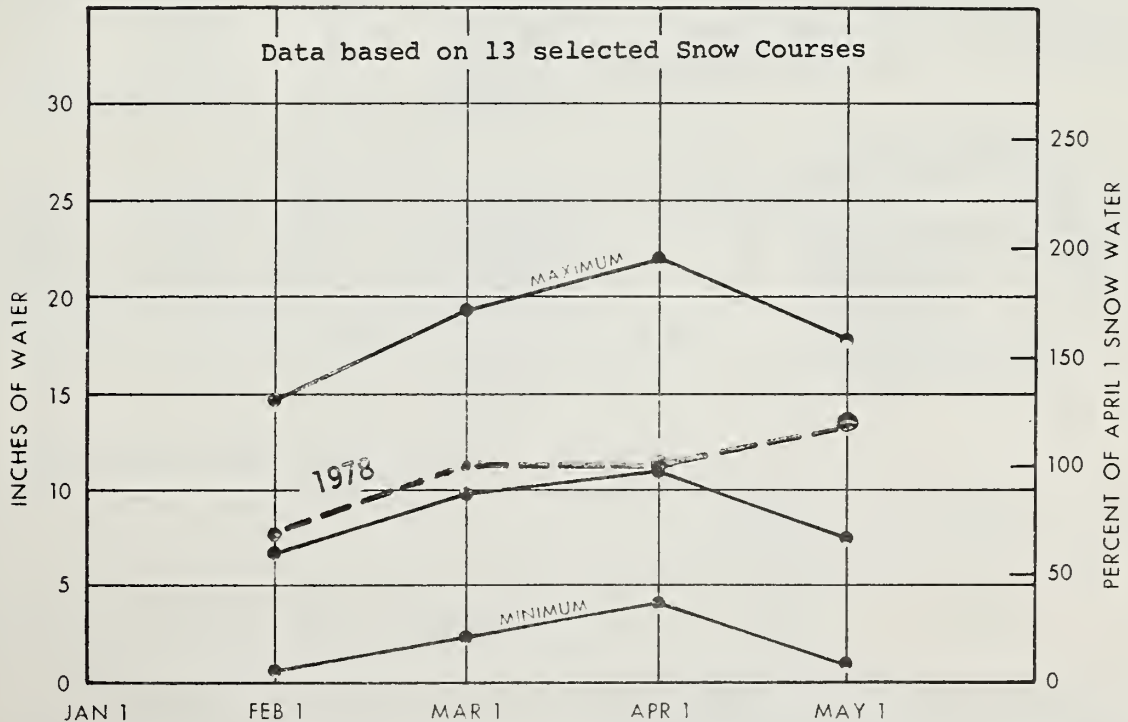


# WINTER SNOWPACK

## UPPER HUMBOLDT & SNAKE BASINS

### NEVADA

#### 1978



# STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (Thousand Acre Feet) as of: May 1, 1978

Forecasts are based on snow-water presently stored in the mountain watersheds and the assumption that precipitation will be near average throughout the forecast period. Peak flow forecasts indicate the most probable range for the maximum average 24-hour flow. All averages are for 1958-72 period.

FORECAST POINT	Forecast Period	Forecast This Year	This Year as Percent of Average	Average †
<u>TRUCKEE RIVER</u>				
Little Truckee River above Boca, CA	May-July	82	126	65
Truckee River at Farad, CA <sup>1,2</sup>	May-July	275	138	199
Lake Tahoe Rise in Feet (from May 1, assuming gates closed) <sup>1</sup>	May-High	1.55	138	1.09
<u>CARSON RIVER</u>				
East Carson near Gardnerville, NV	May-July	230	153	150
West Carson at Woodfords, CA	May-July	64	156	41
Carson River near Carson City, NV	May-July	235	161	146
Carson River at Fort Churchill, NV	May-July	210	160	131
<u>WALKER RIVER</u>				
East Walker near Bridgeport, CA <sup>3</sup>	May-Aug.	125	212	59
West Walker below Little Walker near Coleville, CA	May-July	220	171	129
<u>HUMBOLDT RIVER</u>				
Lamoille Creek near Lamoille, NV	May-July	31	119	26
South Fork Humboldt near Elko, NV	May-July	75	132	57
Marys River above Hot Springs, NV	May-July	28	117	24
North Fork Humboldt at Devils Gate, NV	May-July	21	105	20
Humboldt River at Palisade, NV	May-July	186	125	149
Humboldt River at Comus, NV	May-July	150	133	113
Martin Creek near Paradise, NV	May-July	16	160	10
<u>SNAKE RIVER</u>				
Owyhee River near Owyhee, NV <sup>4</sup>	May-July	45	110	41
Owyhee River near Gold Creek, NV <sup>4</sup>	May-July	11	137	8
Salmon Falls Creek near San Jacinto, NV	May-July	54	108	50
	May-Sept.	58	107	54
<u>SURPRISE VALLEY</u>				
Bidwell Creek near Ft. Bidwell, CA	May-July	10.2	113	9.0
Mill Creek near Cedarville, CA	May-July	4.2	119	3.5
Deep Creek near Cedarville, CA	May-July	2.8	127	2.2
Eagle Creek near Eagleville, CA	May-July	4.5	118	3.8
<u>COLORADO RIVER</u>				
Virgin River near Virgin, UT	May-June	45	164	28

1. Forecast issued by Truckee Basin Water Committee

2. Observed flow plus change in storage in Boca, Stampede, Prosser Reservoir, Donner, Independence and Martis Creek Lakes and minus the flow of Truckee River at Tahoe City, CA.

3. Observed flow plus change in storage in Bridgeport Reservoir

4. Observed flow plus change in storage in Wildhorse Reservoir

† 1958-1972 period.

# RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet) AS OF May 1, 1978

Basin or Stream	RESERVOIR	Usable Capacity	Usable Storage		
			This Year	Last Year	Average †
Owyhee	Wild Horse	72	43	49	30
Lower Humboldt	Rye Patch	172	68	1055	107
Colorado	Mohave	1,810	1,611	1,755	1,693
Colorado	Mead	26,159 66	20,966	20,620	16,943
Tahoe	Tahoe	732	145	123	480
Truckee	Boca	41	34	34	27
Truckee	Prosser**	30	10	3	8*
Truckee	Stampede	220	51	36	***
Carson	Lahontan	291	212	174	219
West Walker	Topaz	59	10	13	40
East Walker	Bridgeport	42	21	12	31

\* Adjusted average.  
 \*\* Storage began August 1, 1969.  
 \*\*\* Flood Control use allocation of 20,000 acre-feet between November 1 and April 10.

## TOTAL RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet)

MONTH	This Year	Last Year	Average †
October 1	97	574	718
January 1	124	488	714
February 1	221	509	782
March 1	302	545	843
April 1	448	550	893
May 1	533	510	934

The above data developed from Wild Horse, Rye Patch, Tahoe, Boca, Lahontan, Topaz, and Bridgeport Reservoirs in 1,000 Acre-feet.  
 TOTAL USABLE CAPACITY 1,409

## PEAK FLOWS (MAXIMUM MEAN DAILY) (Av. flow for 24 hrs. on day of greatest flow)

FORECAST POINT	PEAK FLOW (SECOND FEET)	
	Forecast Range	Average †
East Fork Carson River near Gardnerville, NV	2400-2600	1728
Carson River near Carson City, NV	2800-3000	1901
Carson River near Fort Churchill, NV	2400-2600	1730
W. Walker R. below L. Walker nr Coleville, CA	2300-2500	1532

## FORECAST DATE of LOW FLOW VALUES

FORECAST POINT	Low Flow Value Second/Ft.	Forecast Date Stream Will Recede to Low Flow Value	Average Date of Low Flow Value
East Carson River near Gardnerville, NV	200	8/12	7/20

† 1958-1972 period.



# SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
		Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches)	
NAME	Elevation				Last Year	Average †

## LAKE TAHOE

Echo Peak (CA)	7800	4/26/78	101	54.7	0.0	-
Echo Summit (CA)	7450	4/28/78	79	37.6	0.0	24.2
Freel Bench (CA)	7300	4/26/78	12	5.7	0.0	6.3*
Hagans Meadow (CA)	8000	4/26/78	42	20.6	0.0	12.4
Heavenly Valley (CA)	8800	4/26/78	78	38.5	0.0	-
Marlette Lake	8000	4/24/78	61	29.0	0.0	21.6
Upper Truckee (CA)	6400	4/26/78	1	0.1	0.0	-
Ward Creek #2 (CA)	7000	4/24/78	112	52.8	3.2	40.1
Ward Creek #3 (CA)	6750	4/29/78	94	48.0	3.5	-

## TRUCKEE RIVER

Donner Summit (CA)	6900	4/28/78	111	56.1	0.0	30.7
Fordyce Lake (CA)	6500	4/28/78	119	62.3	2.7	36.9*
Furnace Flat (CA)	6700	4/28/78	138	70.1	7.9	43.1
Independence Camp (CA)	7000	4/25/78	49	24.1	0.0	18.1
Independence Creek (CA)	6500	4/29/78	14	6.3	0.0	7.3
Independence Lake (CA)	8450	4/29/78	125	61.9	9.2	47.0
Mount Rose	9000	4/24/78	89	43.7	2.3	-
Mount Rose Ski Area	8850	4/24/78	116	59.0	5.9	-
Squaw Valley #2 (CA)	7500	4/29/78	144	80.3	8.9	51.4

## CARSON RIVER

Blue Lakes (CA)	8000	4/26/78	109	48.9	3.3	32.3
Carson Pass, Upper (CA)	8600	4/24/78	95	47.0	0.0	33.3
Ebbetts Pass #2 (CA)	8700	4/26/78	113	58.6	1.4	-
Poison Flat (CA)	7900	4/26/78	46	21.1	0.0	-
Wet Meadows #2 (CA)	8050	4/26/78	118	59.2	0.6	-
Upper Fish Valley (CA)	8050	4/26/78	32	14.7a	0.0	-

## WALKER RIVER

Lobdell Lake (CA)	9200	4/26/78	57	26.0	0.0	-
Sawmill Ridge (CA)	8750	4/26/78	65	32.5	0.0	-
Sonora Pass (CA)	8800	4/26/78	78	39.5	0.0	19.1
Virginia Lakes (CA)	9500	4/26/78	62	29.5	0.0	14.2
Virginia Lakes Ridge (CA)	9200	4/26/78	70	31.9	3.2	-

# SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
		Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches)	
NAME	Elevation				Last Year	Average †

## OWYHEE RIVER

Big Bend	6700	4/24/78	6	2.8	0.0	1.3
Gold Creek	6600	4/24/78	0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Jack Creek, Lower	6800	4/24/78	0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Jack Creek, Upper	7250	4/24/78	9	4.2	0.0	3.4
Jacks Peak	8420	4/24/78	73	30.2	12.9	26.7
Taylor Canyon	6200	4/24/78	0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Laurel Draw	6700	4/24/78	0	0.0	0.0	-

## SNAKE RIVER

Bear Creek	7800	4/24/78	57	27.7	8.2	20.1
Goat Creek	8800	Data Delayed			5.5a	19.7
Hummingbird Springs	8945	Data Delayed			5.5a	27.7
Pole Creek Ranger Station	8330	Data Delayed			1.6a	22.6
76 Creek	7100	4/24/78	18	9.1	0.0	-

## UPPER HUMBOLDT RIVER

Fry Canyon	6700	4/24/78	0	0.0	0.0	1.1
Green Mountain	8200	4/24/78	26	13.1	-	6.2*
Lamoille #1	7100	4/24/78	5	2.6	0.0	1.9
Lamoille #3	7700	4/24/78	24	10.5	0.0	7.1
Lamoille #5	8700	4/24/78	78	37.2	5.6	26.7
Pole Canyon	7700	4/24/78	17	7.7	-	-
Rodeo Flat	6800	4/24/78	0	0.0	0.0	1.1
Tremewan Ranch	5700	4/24/78	0	0.0	0.0	0.1

## EASTERN NEVADA

Berry Creek	9100	4/26/78	61	23.5	5.3	15.4
Ward Mountain	8900	4/26/78	64	29.0	-	-

## NORTHERN GREAT BASIN

Cedar Pass (CA)	7100	4/28/78	39	16.7	0.0	11.1
Mt. Bidwell (CA)	7240	4/27/78	71	31.3	-	-

a Aeria Marker - Water Content Estimate

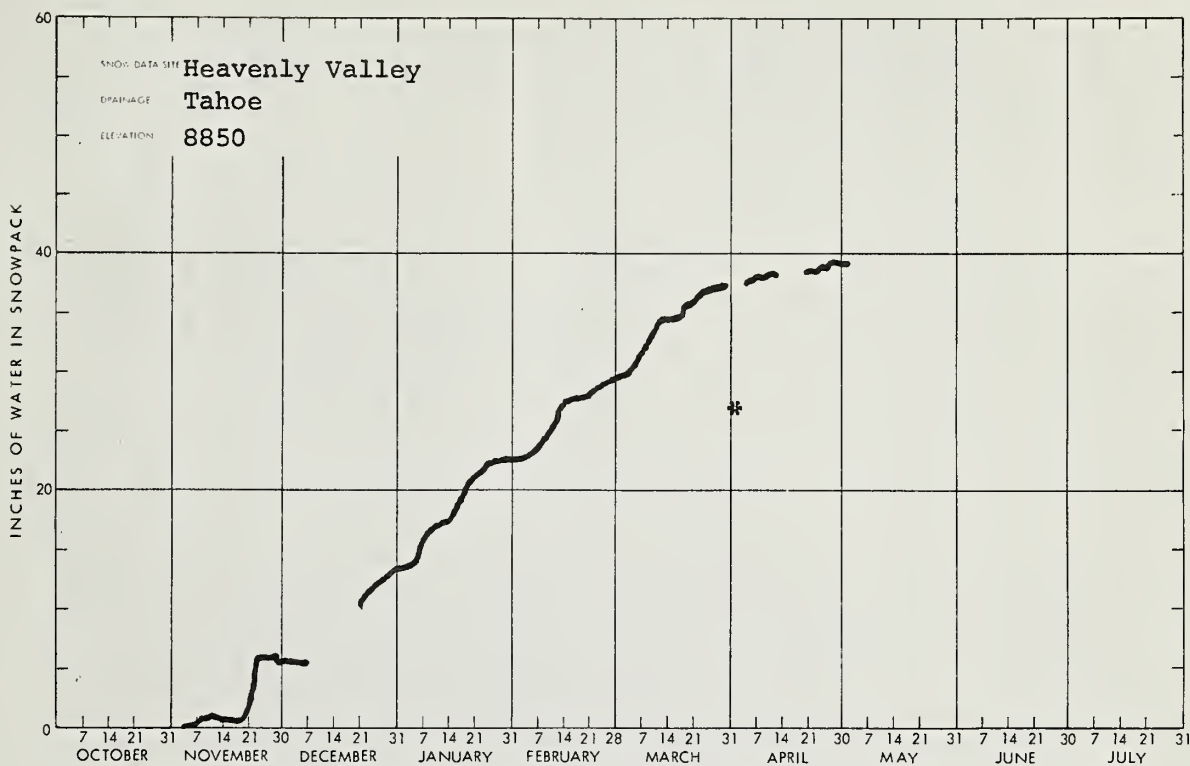
NOTE:  
All averages based on 1958-72, 15 year period. Forecast period is April 1 through July 31 unless otherwise noted.  
a-Aerial marker; water content estimated. \* 1958-72 adjusted average.

## PRECIPITATION (Inches) May 1, 1978

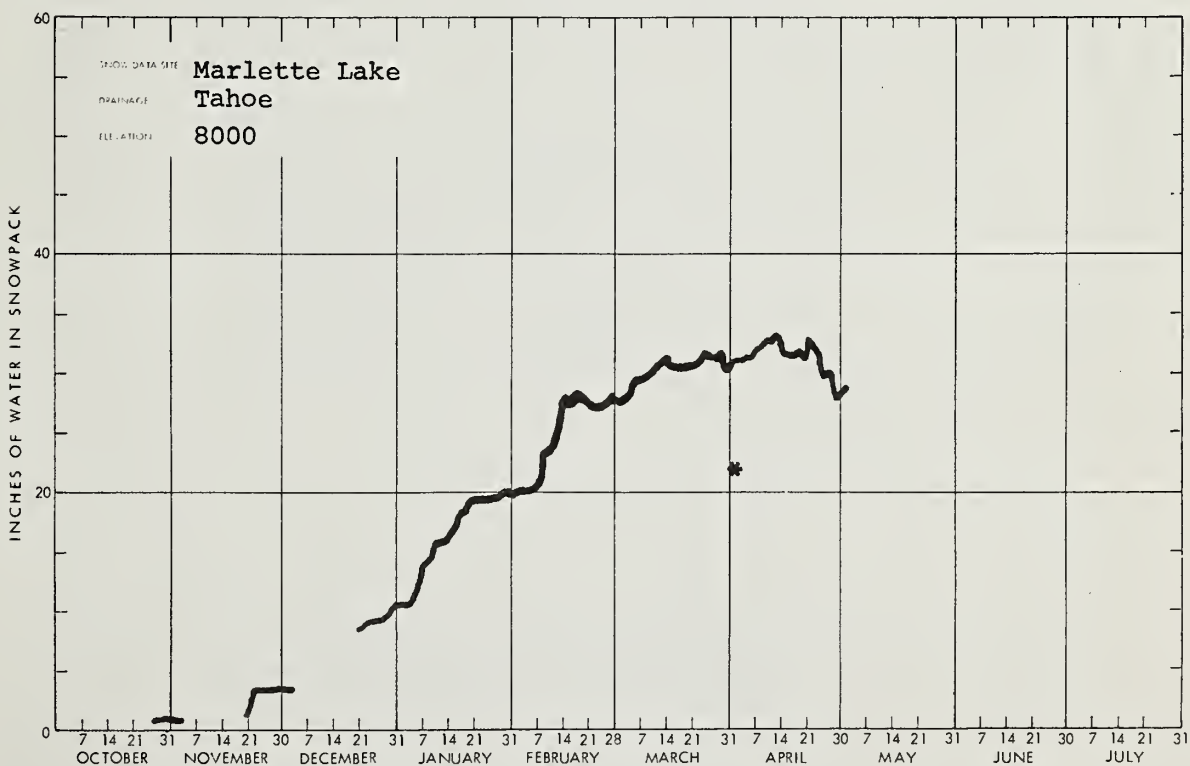
DRAINAGE BASIN and PRECIPITATION GAGE LOCATION	ELEVATION	CURRENT INFORMATION			FROM APPROX. OCT 1 TO DATE		
		Date of Reading	Month's Precipitation	Last Year	This Year	Last Year	Percent of Average
<u>LAKE TAHOE-TRUCKEE</u>							
Echo Peak	7800	4/26/78	6.0	0.5	47.8	15.9	-
Fallen Leaf	6240	4/26/78	3.1	-	32.6	11.4	-
Hagans Meadow	8000	4/26/78	4.2	-	36.1	-	-
Heavenly Valley	8800	4/26/78	4.4	-	36.1	-	-
Independence Camp	7000	4/26/78	3.0	1.1	36.9	11.8	-
Independence Creek	6500	4/29/78	4.4	0.2	35.6	11.3	-
Independence Lake	8450	4/29/78	-	0.1	45.7	16.8	-
Marlette Lake	8000	4/26/78	4.5	0.4	37.1	11.6	-
Ward Creek #3	6750	4/29/78	8.7	2.2	63.0	23.0	-
<u>CARSON RIVER</u>							
Ebbetts Pass	8750	4/26/78	6.4	0.5	46.6	14.9	-
Poison Flat	7900	4/26/78	3.6	0.7	31.0	7.3	-
Wet Meadows	8050	4/26/78	4.8	0.7	34.9	11.8	-
<u>WALKER RIVER</u>							
Lobdell Lake	9200	4/26/78	3.1	1.0	29.6	5.9	-
Sonora Pass	8800	4/26/78	4.8	0.8	37.7	14.1	-
Virginia Lakes Ridge	9200	4/26/78	3.7	1.7	35.0	18.7	-
<u>HUMBOLDT RIVER</u>							
Corral Canyon	8500	4/29/78	5.9	-	25.3	-	-G
Green Mountain	8000	4/24/78	2.6	-	23.4	-	-
Lamoille #3	7700	4/24/78	4.3	1.5	25.4	15.3	-
Rodeo Flat	6800	4/24/78	2.3	-	12.4	8.4	95
<u>OWYHEE RIVER</u>							
Big Bend	6700	4/24/78	2.0	1.4	13.4	11.8	96
Jacks Peak	8420	4/24/78	5.1	2.9	28.1	24.6	-
Laurel Draw	67004	4/24/78	3.1	-	9.5	-	-
Taylor Canyon	6200	4/24/78	1.9	0.5	9.9	8.5	102
Upper Jack Creek	7250	4/24/78	3.7	1.1	20.7	18.6	-
<u>SNAKE RIVER</u>							
76 Creek	7100	4/24/78	1.7	0.4	14.0	5.9	-
Bear Creek	7800	4/24/78	3.8	7.2	20.6	15.0	-
<u>EASTERN NEVADA</u>							
Berry Creek	9100	4/24/78	5.9	1.6	22.6	15.1	-
Ward Mountain	8900	4/26/78	-	-	32.1	-	-
<u>NORTHERN GREAT BASIN</u>							
Cedar Pass	7100	4/29/78	9.5	-	29.1	-	-

# SNOW PILLOW MEASUREMENTS

0-518-X12C



0-518-X12C



\* April 1 Average





## Agencies Cooperating in Collecting Data Contained in this Bulletin

### FEDERAL

Agricultural Research Service  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Forest Service  
Geological Survey  
Navy  
Soil Conservation Service  
U. S. District Court - Federal Water Master  
NOAA, National Weather Service

### STATE

California Cooperative Snow Surveys  
California Department of Parks and Recreation  
California Department of Water Resources  
Colorado River Commission of Nevada  
Idaho Cooperative Snow Surveys  
Nevada Association of Conservation Districts  
Nevado Department of Conservation & Natural Resources  
    Division of Water Resources  
    Nevado State Forester  
Oregon Cooperative Snow Surveys  
Utah Cooperative Snow Surveys  
White Mountain Research Station, Univ. of California

### PRIVATE

Amalgamated Sugar Company  
Kennecott Copper Corporation  
Nevado Irrigation District  
Owyhee Project North Board of Control  
Owyhee Project South Board of Control  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
Pershing County Water Conservation District  
Sierra Pacific Power Company  
Truckee-Carson Irrigation District  
Walker River Irrigation District  
Washoe County Water Conservancy District

Other organizations and individuals furnish valuable information for the snow survey reports. Their Cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

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SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

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generation, navigation,  
mining and industry

*"The Conservation of Water begins  
with the Snow Survey"*